

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

|                             |   |                     |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------|
| DELBERT E. HARRIS,          | ) |                     |
|                             | ) |                     |
| Plaintiff,                  | ) | 8:05cv26            |
|                             | ) |                     |
| vs.                         | ) | ORDER to SHOW CAUSE |
|                             | ) |                     |
| OMAHA POLICE DEPT., et al., | ) |                     |
|                             | ) |                     |
| Defendants.                 | ) |                     |

This matter is before the court sua sponte. Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(m) establishes the following time limit for service of process on the defendants in a civil case:

(m) Time Limit for Service. If service of the summons and complaint is not made upon a defendant within 120 days after the filing of the complaint, the court, upon motion or on its own initiative after notice to the plaintiff, shall dismiss the action without prejudice as to that defendant or direct that service be effected within a specified time; provided that if the plaintiff shows good cause for the failure, the court shall extend the time for service for an appropriate period. This subdivision does not apply to service in a foreign country pursuant to subdivision (f) or (j)(1).

In an Order on Initial Review, the court established the deadline for service of process in this case as 120 days after entry of that Order. The deadline has now expired, and the court's records show that the plaintiff did not return the summons forms sent to him to complete and return to the court so that timely service of process could be accomplished by the U.S. Marshal on the plaintiff's behalf. The plaintiff was warned that failure to obtain timely service on the defendants could result in dismissal of this matter, without prejudice.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That by July 11, 2005, the plaintiff shall file a pleading<sup>1</sup> entitled Response to Order to Show Cause explaining any reason the plaintiff may have why the above-entitled case should not be dismissed, without prejudice, for failure to obtain timely service of process on any defendant; and

2. That in the absence of a timely and sufficient Response to Order to Show Cause, this case may be subject, without further notice, to dismissal without prejudice

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<sup>1</sup>Any pleading filed with the court may be handwritten, if legible.

pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(m).

DATED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2005.

BY THE COURT:

/s Richard G. Kopf  
United States District Judge